

Jennings County Commissioners Meeting
Government Annex Building, Commissioners Meeting Room
September 12, 2019 6:30 pm

The meeting was opened with Matt Sporleder leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present were Matt Sporleder, Dave Lane and Bob Willhite.

Matt indicated there was an executive session held in regards to the eligibility of rehire of a previous employee. Bob Willhite made a motion to allow rehire of the previous employee. Dave Lane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kitty Shepherd, Treasurer, presented information on having a Commissioners Certificate Sale. These are for properties that did not sell at the tax sale. Zach Hughes from SRI, the company that holds the tax sales, was present. This runs much like a tax sale except the opening bid would be a lower amount than what is owed. SRI said they recommend the bids start at \$100. The redemption period is 120 days instead of 1 year. Bob Willhite made the motion to proceed with a Commissioners Certificate Sale. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Marty Hubbard, a resident of Hayden, presented that there was a car accident a few weeks ago where the car entered into the playground and took out the fence and some poles. This did not happen during school hours. This is the second time in the last 3-4 years that this has happened. This is a fenced in area but that doesn't stop a car out of control. He would like to see a guardrail on the west side of the fence. There is 6-8 feet between the road and the fence. Jim Reeves from the County Highway will look into this and get some figures and bring the information back to another meeting.

Jeff Walker, Community Wellness Coordinator, presented information on Joining Jennings for Healthy Living. This program encourages healthy eating and active living. They are looking to get some grant funding from outside the county and wants to apply through the Auditor's Office. Bob Willhite made the motion to allow him to apply for these grants through the Auditor's Office. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Marie Shepherd from the Area Plan Commission presented a rezone request for John Willet at 3300 N Main Street Butlerville, IN from Commercial Planned Business to Residential Single Family. Bob Willhite made the motion to accept. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Reeves from the County Highway Department reported on the O&M/Brownstown Road contract, INDOT is allowing \$3,320,000. He is working with the engineer trying to get the costs down since it is a 20% match. July 2020 the bids will open. \$830,000 would be county portion for construction alone plus the engineering right-of-way that was \$1.1 million. Bob Willhite made the motion to sign the agreement with INDOT. David Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim also reported that INDOT is putting in buffers throughout the county between CSL and 275 W by the Dollar Store, SR 7 at 900 N before ECO Park. Matt asked what it would take to get INDOT to agree to leave the Queensville gate (CSL) open all the time. Jim said he thought it would be the county's responsibility to pay for the buffer and the decel lane. Jim will ask if they would consider this.

Auditor Salsman spoke on a form that she has for an employee to fill out any time they have a change in their payroll direct deposit, etc. This would need to be filled out in the Auditor's Office. She asked that this be approved and added into the hand book. This would also cover position changes, promotions/demotion, etc. Bob Willhite made the motion to allow the form and add it to the hand book. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

She also had letters from the department heads to the Commissioners requesting credit cards for their departments. The following departments requested \$1,000 limits: HR, Maintenance, Animal Control and Treasurer. These departments requested \$2,000 limit: Assessor, Recorder and Auditor. Bob Willhite made the motion to approve all as requested except increasing the Maintenance Dept to \$2,000. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Auditor Salsman also presented a letter from Eagle Point Technology about the Wi-Fi. This would entail rewiring the Annex Building, probation and Courthouse to improve the Wi-Fi. The total cost would be approximately \$4,000. Bob Willhite made the motion to table this until more information is available. Dave Lane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Nicci Lucas, HR, passed out information on credit card policy/ordinance and travel policy/ordinance. There is a credit card policy/ordinance in place, #2018-13 done November 2018. She presented a draft that she has made and Chris Doran, acting county attorney, has been editing. She would like for this to be discussed at the next meeting. Bob Willhite made the motion

to table this until the next meeting. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Nicci also said that she presented a job description for Human Resource at the last meeting and it was tabled at that time. Bob Willhite made the motion to table it until the next meeting. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Nicci also said that there are two openings at the Highway Department for Skilled Labor. Jim Reeves is asking permission to post these positions. Bob Willhite made the motion to post these openings. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Mary Kilgore asked if semis are allowed to traverse county roads. They are allowed to unless it is posted otherwise.

Mary Kilgore said that when Gary Driver was Sheriff he or someone from his office was at the meetings. She was asking if Kenny Freeman would follow the same. When she was coming into the meeting tonight she was bullied by someone. Matt said he would look into having someone from the Sheriff's office at the County Council and Commissioners Meetings.

Jerry Shepherd reported that he received an e-mail on the security assessment on government annex. He will forward this e-mail.

Jerry said the Fire Chief's will meet October 9 at 6 pm.

Bob Willhite made a motion to approve the prior minutes. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob Willhite made a motion to sign the payroll and claims. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Dave Turner from the Sheriff's Department spoke on the School Resource Officer. The School Corporation wants to add a resource officer at the Middle School. It would be a 1 year contract with the school and would like for them to start October 1. The attorneys will look over the contract. Bob Willhite made the motion to approve the request based on the attorney's approval of contract. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Matt asked Dave if there could be an officer at the County Council and Commissioners Meetings from now on. Dave said they will work on that.

Bob Willhite made the motion to adjourn. Dave Lane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.



Tessia Salsman, Auditor



Matt Sporleder, Commissioner, President



Bob Willhite, Commissioner, Vice-President



Dave Lane, Commissioner